

A13.2:
In 81
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FOREST CONTROL

by

CONTINUOUS INVENTORY

"---you shall not muzzle an ox when it is
treading out the grain."

First Corinthians 9:9

Milwaukee, Wis. July, 1957 No. 40

PUNCHED CARDS ARE CORNERSTONES

Ancient man wrote many times with a pointed stick in the sands by the sea, and many times the tides turned and washed words of great value to mankind into the dark obscurity of the fathomless depths.

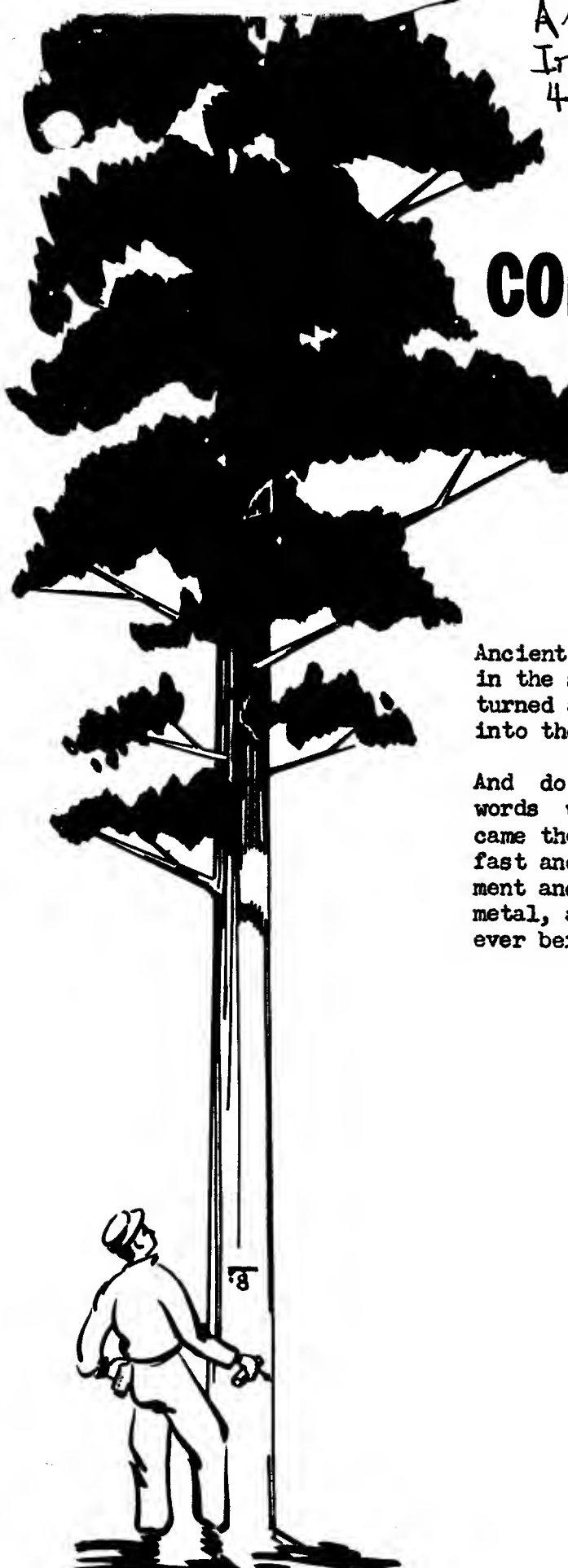
And do you think that all was lost because a few words were lost? Not so, for out of this loss came the first glimmering desire for more steadfast and abiding records; first on papyrus, parchment and paper, then on wood, stone and precious metal, and today -- more alive and changeless than ever before--in punched cards and in teletype tape.

FORESTRY SCHOOL LIBRARY

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U. S. Forest Service, R-9
Milwaukee 3, Wisconsin

CAL STOTT



IT MAKES SENSE TO MARK SENSE

This is the time of the year mark-sensers take to the woods with their mark-sense pencils and their I.B.M. cards. Their task is that of the scribe of tree descriptions, in code numbers and black marks, and their instructions were unwittingly written in verse many years ago by Joel Chandler Harris:

"-----

Don't fill the whole blamed paper
With a tale which at a pinch,
Could be cornered in an inch.
Boil her down until she simmers,
Polish her until she glimmers."

Good mark-sensing is not difficult, WHEN THE MIND IS MADE UP TO MARK-SENSE. Pride of workmanship and self inspection are important. The specific rules for the work are so simple they may be enumerated, and here they are:

1. Make a one stroke mark, so black "she glimmers".
2. Center the mark full length in the block.
3. Flutter check the cards before leaving each plot.
4. Flutter check the cards each night before filing.
5. Get rid of the occasional undependable mark-senser.
6. Give your men thorough field check and supervision.
7. Don't rush them.

When marks, faithfully made by these standards, do not mark-sense punch well in the machine, then the fault is with the machine and not with the mark-senser. Here are special rules for this situation:

1. Do not delay calling for a cleaning of the fouled brushes.
2. Do not let the machine operator convince you that the marks are faulty when actually the machine is at fault.
How I struggled with this problem until I learned to stand my ground.
3. Adjust the machine sensitivity moderately for marks that are only moderately dark.

These are the rules and care is the guide. With these rules and guides you can take your work to the machine 10 minutes after the last tree is mark-sensed on the last I.B.M. card. No delays. No waiting around for card punching and verifying. In 10 days you can have the completed results for your biggest case.

One more caution. Never let a machine operator who has had trouble with his first and only mark-sense job, because the field work was not checked or the brushes were not clean or not well adjusted, talk you out of a speedy, low-cost mark-sense job in the woods. We have mark-sensed a million trees successfully.

We like the blue printed card better than the green.

CAL STOTT,
Forester